DARK HORSE COMICS
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#3
THE GOON™
by Eric Powell

The nameless man, the zombie priest, had come to town to build a gang from the undead. But even the undead fear...

THE GOON™

by Eric Powell

color assists by
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edited by Scott Allie and Matt Dryer designed by Amy Arendts
published by Mike Richardson

Zombies provided by Jethro and Earl Zombie Wranglerin' Inc., and The Adopt-A-Zombie Foundation

Thirteen young boys were not taken to a deserted island, each given a knife, a bible, and a six-pack of beer, left for three months to hunt each other like animals, and live off the flesh of their fallen comrades to prove their manhood, for the making of this comic. Nope. Wasn't us. It was the new Bush-administration-sponsored Boy Scout program.

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SLOP THE HOGS!
MILK THE COW!
FEED THE CHICKENS!
HOOK THE GOAT UP TO THE GENERATOR SO WE CAN WATCH THE MAGIC PICTURE BOX!

I'LL SHOW 'EM! THEY WON'T HAVE ME TO ORDER AROUND NO MORE!
I'M RUNNIN' AWAY AND I AIN'T NEVER COMING BACK!
I RECKON THERE'S A GOOD BEDDIN'-DOWN PLACE.
YEP, IT'S GOOD.

IT SURE IS GETTIN' MIGHTY DARK.
WONDER WHAT MA IS MAKING FOR SUPPER.
WHAT'S THAT?!!
C-COYOTES... THAT'S ALL. M-MAYBE THIS WEREN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA.

HEY, WHAT'S THIS?
INDECENT ADVENTURE
AN OLD FUNNY-BOOK.
INDECENT ADVENTURE
SECRET ORIGINS REVEALED!!!
"AFTER HIS AUNT WAS KILLED, GOON SET OUT ON HIS OWN TO SEEK FORTUNE IN TERRIBLE DEEDS."
INDECENT ADVENTURE
SECRET ORIGINS REVEALED!!!

A LOST TALE OF
THE GOON
AFTER HIS AUNT WAS KILLED, GOON SET OUT ON HIS OWN TO SEEK FORTUNE IN TERRIBLE DEEDS.

HA! WHAT A LITTLE FAIRY MARY!
JUST LOOK AT HIM!
SISSY! SISSY GIRL!
HE'S GOTTA BE A GIRL! I NEVER SEEN A BOY WEAR NOTHIN' LIKE THAT!
I BET HE'S GOT PINK GIRLY PANTIES, TOO!
YOU WEARIN' PINK PANTIES, YOU GIRL?!
G-GET AWAY! JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!
SHUT UP, YOU SISSY!
HA! LOOK AT HIM! ONE PUNCH AND HE'S CRYING LIKE A BABY!
WE'LL BE SEEIN' YA TOMORROW, SISSY!

HEY, KID, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YA?

IT AIN'T MY FAULT! MY MA MAKES ME WEAR THIS! DON'T HIT ME!
I AIN'T GONNA HIT YA.
YOU... YOU AIN'T?

NICKY AND HIS GANG IS ALWAYS PUNCHIN' ON ME. I DON'T WANT TO WEAR THESE PRISSY CLOTHES, BUT IT'S ALL MY MA WILL BUY ME.

OH, YEAH? WHAT KIND OF CLOTHES YOU WANT, KID?

JUST NORMAL CLOTHES, LIKE WHAT NICKY AND HIS GANG GOT.

WATCH MY BAG A MINUTE.

HEY, NICKY!!

MY PAL HERE LIKES THEM CLOTHES!

YOU WAS GREAT! I NEVER SEEN NOBODY HAND OUT A BEATIN' LIKE THAT!
MY FAVORITE PART WAS WHEN YOU POPPED HIS EYE OUT!
YEAH, WELL, I PUNCHED IT BACK IN FOR HIM, TOO.
YOU'S A REAL TOUGH GUY, AIN'T YA, KID?!

YEAH, BUT IT WAS ALL CROOKED TO HIS OTHER EYE AND LOOKIN' IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS!
SEEING HIM RUN AWAY ALL BLOODY AND NAKED WITH HIS CROOKED EYES...IT WAS THE GREATEST MOMENT OF MY LIFE!

SAY, WHAT'S YER NAME ANYWAY?
GOON.
MY NAME'S FRANCIS. WHERE YOU LIVE, GOON?

I AIN'T GOT NO HOME.

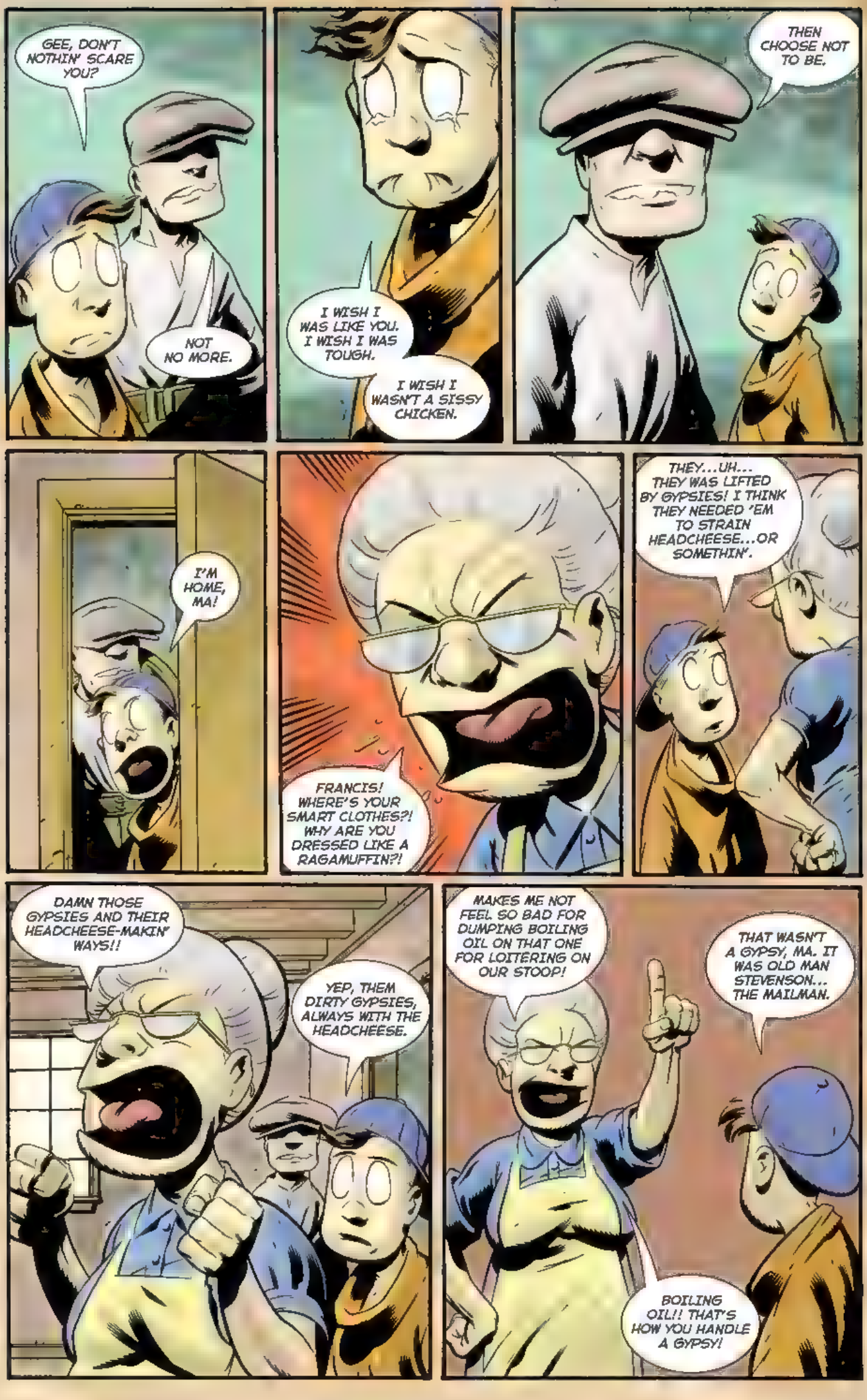
YOU RUNNIN' AWAY?
SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT.
HEY! WHY DON'T YOU STAY WITH ME?! MA WOULDN'T MIND!
REALLY?
SURE! C'MON, I'LL SHOW YOU MY RACY MAGAZINES I GOT HID UNDER MY BED!
OKAY, BUT I GOTTA DO SOMETHIN' FIRST.
WHERE'S PAOLO'S BARBERSHOP?
TWO BLOCKS DOWN, BUT YOU DON'T WANNA GO THERE.
EVERYONE KNOWS IT AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A FRONT. THOSE GUYS ARE ALL BLACK HAND. REAL THUGS. BEST STAY AWAY FROM THERE.
I GOT BUSINESS.

I TOLD MY OLD LADY SHE LOOKED LIKE A COW AND SHE SLUGGED ME IN THE CHOPS WITH A HAM.
HA! HA!
SO DID YOU KISS AND MAKE UP?!
NAH, I SMASHED HER STINKIN' TEETH IN FOR HER!
HA! HA! HA!
HA! HA! HA!
I'M LOOKING FOR PAOLO!
HA! HA! HA!
I SAID I'M LOOKING FOR PAOLO!
I'M PAOLO. WHAT DO YOU WANT, KID?
I'M HERE TO COLLECT FOR LABRAZIO.
HA! YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE LABRAZIO IS GONNA SEND SOME PUNK KID TO COLLECT FOR HIM?!
GET OUTTA HERE!

I WANT THAT MONEY! NOW!
YOU LITTLE [redacted]! YOU GONNA COME IN MY PLACE AND PUT YOUR HANDS ON ME?!
RENZO! BEAT THIS KID TILL HE AIN'T SO STUPID!!
WATCH YOURSELF, RENZO. I AIN'T NO FAT WOMAN WITH A HAM.
I'M GONNA BUST YOU UP EXTRA GOOD FOR THAT SMART MOUTH, BOY!

IF I EVER SEE YOU AROUND HERE AGAIN, YER DEAD!
YOU'RE CRAZY! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE BEFORE THEY START SHOOTIN'!
THEY AIN'T GETTIN' RID OF ME.
AND I ATE ALL THE CAKE! MRS. CRABTREE WOULDN'T GIVE JACKIE ANY BECAUSE HE PLAYED HOOKY WITH FERINA AND CHUBBY.
THERE'S MY BUILDING RIGHT OVER THERE!
WHAT? YOUR PLACE IS RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET!
OH, NO! IT'S OTTO! C'MON, LET'S CUT DOWN THIRD!
YEAH, BUT THAT GUY'S CRAZY! I HEARD HE EATS DOGS AND EVEN A KID ONCE!

YOU GONNA WALK AROUND THE BLOCK FOR SOME OLD LOON?! C'MON!
WAIT!
I WAS MAULED BY A DOG AT THE AGE OF FOUR! THE NUMBER OF STITCHES WAS SEVEN! IT COVETED MY MEAT BRITCHES!
I SPORT POTATO PANTS AND ALL DOGS LOVE ME FOR IT.
I...
YOU'RE THE DEVIL.
THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' MORE SELF-REWARDIN' THAN TAUNTIN' THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED!


GEE, DON'T NOTHIN' SCARE YOU?
NOT NO MORE.
I WISH I WAS LIKE YOU. I WISH I WAS TOUGH.
I WISH I WASN'T A SISSY CHICKEN.
THEN CHOOSE NOT TO BE.
I'M HOME, MA!
FRANCIS! WHERE'S YOUR SMART CLOTHES?! WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE A RAGAMUFFIN?!
THEY...UH... THEY WAS LIFTED BY GYPSIES! I THINK THEY NEEDED 'EM TO STRAIN HEADCHEESE...OR SOMETHIN'.
DAMN THOSE GYPSIES AND THEIR HEADCHEESE-MAKIN' WAYS!!
YEP, THEM DIRTY GYPSIES, ALWAYS WITH THE HEADCHEESE.
MAKES ME NOT FEEL SO BAD FOR DUMPING BOILING OIL ON THAT ONE FOR LOITERING ON OUR STOOP!
THAT WASN'T A GYPSY, MA. IT WAS OLD MAN STEVENSON... THE MAILMAN.
BOILING OIL!! THAT'S HOW YOU HANDLE A GYPSY!

THIS IS GOON. HE'S STAYING OVER.
HEY.
DON'T YOU "HEY" ME, BOY! YOU SAY GOOD EVENING!
YOU LOOK LIKE A HOODLUM! YOU A HOODLUM, BOY?!
YEAH, MA! HE'S A HOODLUM! BUT HE PROMISES NOT TO STEAL NOTHIN' OR MURDER YOU IN YOUR SLEEP WITH A BRICK!
I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE DROWNED HIM AT BIRTH, CAT.
SLAM!
AND THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY.
LABRAZIO GOT MY AUNT KIZZIE SHOT SO I... I KILLED HIM WITH A ROCK.
I'M GONNA USE THIS BOOK OF HIS TO TAKE HIS MONEY. I FIGURE IT'S OWED TO ME.
BUT NOBODY'S GONNA BELIEVE YOU'RE COLLECTING FOR LABRAZIO UNLESS THEY GET THE WORD STRAIGHT FROM HIM!
I CAN MAKE THEM BELIEVE. I JUST GOTTA BE AS RUTHLESS AS LABRAZIO.
TOMORROW NIGHT I'M GOIN' BACK TO PAOLO'S AND BURNIN' THE PLACE DOWN.
IF THEY CATCH YOU, THEY'LL KILL YOU!
WHAT HAVE I GOT TA LIVE FOR?

LONELY ST.
C'MON, GOON! THE BEST ICE-CREAM SHOP IN TOWN IS ON LONELY STREET!
THEY GOT MALTEDS AND SUNDAES AND SPLITS AND
JUST LOOK AT THE PLACE, LAZLO!
NOW THAT WE'VE SHAKEN THAT BLASTED SHERIFF, IT'S TIME WE SET UP A PERMANENT RESIDENCE!
THUNK!
YES, MY UNDEAD HORDES WILL--
OW!
WHO THREW THAT?!!
WHY'D YOU CLOCK THAT OLD MAN WITH A ROCK?
DIDN'T LIKE THE LOOK OF 'IM.
I'M PARTIAL TO CHOCOLATE MYSELF.
SEE, TOLD YOU IT WAS THE BEST.

BET YOU NEVER HAD ICE CREAM THAT GOOD AT THE CARNIVAL!
WELL, AFTER SHOVELIN' ELEPHANT AND MONKEY CRAP FOR A FEW HOURS, IT KIND OF GOT HARD TO TASTE ANYTHING AT THE END OF THE DAY.
OOPS. DEAD END.
GAH!
ZOMBIE!
AH! DON'T LET IT GET ME!
WISH I HAD MY SHOVEL.
SHUNK!

DON'T LET IT GET ME. DON'T LET IT GET ME. DON'T LET IT GET ME.
IT'S DEAD, FRANKY!
IT... IT IS? WHAT IS IT, GOON?
AIN'T YOU NEVER SEEN A ZOMBIE BEFORE?
MY CARNIVAL WAS WEST OF HERE. WE STARTED SEEIN' THEM ALL THE TIME. MAYBE THEY'RE MOVING THIS WAY.
BOY, I HOPE NOT.
OKAY, FRANKY, LET'S GO!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS!
WHAT IF THEY THINK THE PLACE BURNT DOWN BY ACCIDENT?!
IF THEY DON'T KNOW LABRAZIO DID IT, WHAT GOOD IS IT TO YOU?!
WHAM!

YOU! MR. PAOLO KICKS YOU OUT AND YOU COME BUSTIN' IN THE JOINT AT DARK!! YOU'RE DEAD, KID!
YOU'RE RIGHT. LABRAZIO WOULDN'T BE SO VAGUE. HE'D WANT NO DOUBT THAT HE DONE IT.
RUN, FRANKY!
AHH!
THIS WAY! THROUGH LONELY STREET!
IN HERE!

I SAW YOU KIDS COME IN HERE! I'M GONNA SNAP YER SCRAWNY NECKS LIKE TWIGS!
SHOOT 'IM! SHOOT 'IM WITH LABRAZIO'S GUN!
I...I...NOT UNLESS I GOTTA! I DON'T WANT TO FEEL THAT WAY AGAIN!
STUPID KIDS! THINK I AIN'T GONNA FIND YA!
RATTLE! RATTLE! RATTLE!
YOU'RE MINE NOW!
GASP!

AHHH!!
ZOMBIES! RUN!
WE'RE STUCK!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
Click! Click! Click!
RUN, FRANKY!

GAH!
HELP, GOON!
FRANKY! TOO MANY! KILL IT!
HELP ME!
I CAN'T GET TO YOU! YOU GOTTA KILL IT!
G-GET AWAY!
KILL IT!
GAWH!
GET AWAY!!

I DID IT.
I DID IT MYSELF.
I DID IT MYSELF!!
OKAY, WHO WANTS A PIECE OF FRANCIS, YOU [illegible] BUG-EYED [illegible]?!!
OH, YOU [illegible] WANT SOME, YOU [illegible] SLACK-JAWED, [illegible]?!!
I'LL KILL YA! I'LL KILL ALL OF YA!!

PANT, PANT, DON'T KNOW, PANT, PANT, WHO, PANT, THEY'RE MESSIN' WITH!

UGH, THEY SURE DID MAKE A MESS OUT OF RENZO.
THROW ME THAT ROPE, FRANKY. RENZO'S GONNA MAKE HIMSELF USEFUL.

OH MY GOD!
I'M GONNA BE SICK!
THE MOST DISGUSTING THING I'VE EVER SEEN!
LOOK AT THE NOTE.
IT WAS LABRAZIO, I TELL YA! LABRAZIO! ONLY HE'S THAT BRUTAL.

DON'T MAKE MY BOY HAVE TO ASK TWICE.
-L

HERE'S LABRAZIO'S MONEY, AND THERE'S A LITTLE EXTRA FOR YOURSELF, MR. GOON.
LABRAZIO SAYS YOU CAN CUT DOWN YOUR BOY RENZO AFTER EVERYBODY'S GOT A GOOD LOOK AT HIM.
YES, MR. GOON.

WELL IF IT AIN'T THE LITTLE SISSY! YER THUG AIN'T AROUND TO PROTECT YOU NOW, SISSY!
YEAH!
YER RIGHT. MY PAL AIN'T AROUND.
SWAP!
BUT WHO NEEDS HIM WHEN I GOT A BELLY FULL OF SPITE AND A LENGTH OF LEAD PIPE!
COME BACK TOMORROW AND I'LL SET THAT EYE STRAIGHT FOR YA, TULIP!
FRANKY! C'MON, WE GOT WORK.
HAVE AN APPLE, MR. GOON?
G'DAY, MR. GOON!
NICE WEATHER, HUH, MR. GOON!
COMPLIMENTARY SHOESHINE, MR. GOON?
I GOTTA DIS BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTA, MISTA GOON!

WOW!
INDECENT ADVENTURE
SECRET
THAT PICTURE BOOK DONE OPENED MY EYES!
BACK HOME I GOT A LOVING FAMILY, A COMMUNITY OF LOYAL, HARD-WORKING FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS, AND A LUSH, PEACEFUL COUNTRYSIDE PERFECT FOR BUILDIN' A HOME WITH A FAMILY OF MY OWN ONE DAY...
SCREW THAT CRAP!
GOOD THING I GOT SET STRAIGHT BEFORE I WENT CRYIN' HOME WITH MY TAIL BETWEEN MY LEGS!
YES, SIR! AFTER I GET A TATTOO ACROSS MY FACE, I GOTSTA FIND ME SOME OF THEM EASY WOMEN!